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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/27/2019  
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SUBJECT: DEALS WITH IRAN BENEFIT PM ERDOGAN'S FRIENDS

REF: 08 ANKARA 2028

Classified By: Economic Counselor Dale Eppler for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

1. (C) On February 22, local press reported that Turkey and Iran had established a joint venture company to develop gas in Iran and build a pipeline.
2. (C) In 2007, Kartet, an electricity generation and exporting company, signed a deal with Tavanir, Iran's state owned electricity company to build a power plant.
3. (C) Comment: If true, the PM's push of SOM Petrol to do the gas deal with Iran could actually slow progress on the deal. It is clear from the above that the PM is pushing for a deal with Iran.

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Jeffrey